Meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water for the Organization of the Amendment Conference

PTBT/CONF/M/SR.13
21 June 1990

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

SUMMARY RECORD OF THE 13th MEETING

Held at Headquarters, New York
on Friday, 8 June 1990, at 3 p.m.

President: Mr. JAYASINGHE (Sri Lanka)

CONTENTS

Organization of the Conference:

(a) Agenda

(b) Draft rules of procedure

(c) Background and other documentation

Adoption of the final report of the Meeting

Closure of the Meeting

This record is subject to correction.

Corrections should be submitted in one of the working languages. They should be set forth in a memorandum and also incorporated in a copy of the record. They should be sent within one week of the date of this document to the Chief, Official Records Editing Section, Department of Conference Services, room DC2-750, 2 United Nations Plaza.

Any corrections to the record of this meeting and of other meetings will be issued in a corrigendum.

90-55668 2528S (E)

/...

The meeting was called to order at 4.20 p.m.

1. The meeting was suspended at 4.20 p.m. and resumed at 4.55 p.m.

ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE

(a) AGENDA

2. The PRESIDENT said that in a closed meeting, the Meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water had adopted the provisional agenda of the Amendment Conference (PTBT/CONF/M/10). It was understood that under item 1 of the agenda, in his capacity as President of the meeting, he would declare open the Amendment Conference and invite the Secretary-General of the United Nations to make a statement.

(b) DRAFT RULES OF PROCEDURE

3. The PRESIDENT pointed out that the draft rules of procedure for the Amendment Conference (PTBT/CONF/M.11) had been adopted at the previous meeting. Referring to rule 44 (4) on specialized agencies and intergovernmental organizations, the understanding was that, as had been done in the case of the present Meeting, the President of the Meeting would ask the provisional Secretary-General of the Conference to transmit appropriate communications to the relevant intergovernmental organizations concerning attendance at the Conference. Regarding rule 44 (5) on non-governmental organizations, the understanding was that the Meeting was recommending that an informal meeting should be held during the Conference so that participants could hear statements from non-governmental organizations (NGOs). Time limits would be imposed on the NGO statements, if necessary. The Meeting was also requesting the provisional Secretary-General to communicate that proposal to the NGO Committees on Disarmament in New York and Geneva with a request that they arrange a suitable timetable accordingly. It was also understood that conference services, including interpretation, would be provided for this meeting [at the Amendment Conference]; that there would be no summary record coverage; and that NGOs could submit their views in writing separately.

4. Mr. WAYARABI (Indonesia) said that it had been agreed that announcements in the Journal of the United Nations concerning the NGO informal meetings of the Committee of the Whole and other Amendment Conference bodies would be accompanied by the following entry:

> "Immediately after the adjournment of the meeting of the Committee of the Whole, an informal meeting will be held to enable participants to hear statements presented by the NGOs".

5. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the procedure regarding the participation of NGOs would form part of the understanding with respect to rule 44 (5) of the draft rules of procedure.

6. It was so decided.

(c) BACKGROUND AND OTHER DOCUMENTATION

7. Ms. COURTNEY (Australia), speaking as Chairman of the Working Group on Background Documentation, noted that the points to be covered in the background document for the Amendment Conference were outlined in document PTBT/CONF/M/12, which was based on the list of documents contained in PTBT/CONF/M/6 distributed by the six sponsors of the amendment proposal - Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Yugoslavia, on a "non-paper" and on a list of background documentation prepared by the Working Group. The latter list could be obtained by interested delegations from the Secretariat.

8. The background document to be prepared would consist of a brief section on the areas identified in "non-paper" No. 3 and an annex listing references which delegations might wish to consult in preparing for the Amendment Conference. The production of one concise background document should ensure that estimated costs (PTBT/CONF/M/4) were not exceeded.

9. It was the understanding of the Working Group that the document should contain an account of the convening of the Amendment Conference, consisting of a brief history and making reference to relevant resolutions of the General Assembly and to the statements and documents issued by the six original co-sponsors - Mexico, Venezuela, Sri Lanka, Indonesia, Peru and Yugoslavia. The document should also review the history of the role ascribed to the comprehensive test ban (CTB) and its contribution to the cessation of the nuclear-arms race and information on nuclear-weapon test explosions and other nuclear explosions conducted since 5 August 1963. It had been agreed in the Working Group that the document would draw on public sources and on the Secretary-General's reports on testing information provided by States. The document would also include a summary of resolutions of the General Assembly relevant to CTB and a summary of multilateral, regional and bilateral agreements and other initiatives on the question. It would contain the conclusions and recommendations of the report of the Secretary-General on a comprehensive test ban (A/35/257).

10. The background document would have the format described in PTBT/CONF/M/12. Many sources, including a wide variety of public sources, had been identified as potentially useful in its preparation.

11. An informal meeting of the States Parties could be convened during the General Assembly for the purpose of reviewing the first draft of the document.

READEX FICHE

12. The PRESIDENT noted that document PTBT/CONF/M/12 entitled "background documentation" had been adopted that morning in a closed meeting, together with the understandings which had just been read out by the Chairperson of the Working Group.

13. He drew the Meeting's attention to the fact that a new item, item 11, had been added to the agenda. The revised agenda was contained in document PTBT/CONF/M/1/Rev.1.

14. In addition, the Meeting had adopted an addendum to document PTBT/CONF/M/4, entitled "Arrangements for meeting the costs of the Meeting and Conference of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water (PTBT/CONF/M/4/Add.1).

Draft decision contained in document PTBT/CONF/M/9

15. The PRESIDENT drew the attention of the Meeting to the draft decision sponsored by Yugoslavia on behalf of the Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water, contained in document PTBT/CONF/M/9.

16. Ms. TAYLOR (United Kingdom) said that her delegation wished to join in the consensus on the draft decision but would not necessarily undertake to submit its views.

17. Ms. HOINKES (United States of America) also said that her delegation wished to join in the consensus, but that that did not imply any commitment on its part to submit its views.

18. Mr. GOLOVKO (Union of Soviet Socialist Republics) said that his delegation wished to submit its views as well on the concrete control mechanisms suggested by the six sponsors of the amendment proposal.

19. Ms. COURTNEY (Australia) noted that paragraph 21 of the draft final report of the Meeting of the States Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water for the organization of the Amendment Conference (PTBT/CONF/M/13) should be amended to reflect the adoption of the draft decision contained in PTBT/CONF/M/9.

20. Mr. KALUDJEROVIC (Yugoslavia), speaking on behalf of the Non-Aligned States Parties to the Treaty, proposed that document PTBT/CONF/M/9 should be incorporated in the draft final report as paragraph 19 bis which would read as follows:

> "At its 13th meeting, the Meeting decided to invite the Parties to the Treaty, in particular the nuclear-weapon States Parties to the Treaty, to submit to the provisional Secretary-General of the Conference for distribution before the Conference their views regarding the verification of a comprehensive nuclear-test ban."

21. The PRESIDENT said that, if he heard no objection, he would take it that the Meeting wished to incorporate the new paragraph 19 bis, as proposed by the representative of Yugoslavia, in the draft final report.

22. It was so decided.

ADOPTION OF THE FINAL REPORT OF THE MEETING (PTBT/CONF/M/13)

23. The PRESIDENT drew attention to the draft final report of the Meeting (PTBT/CONF/M/13) and informed the members that, after further consideration, the Bureau had decided to recommend certain amendments. A new paragraph should be inserted at the very beginning, reading as follows:

> "1. At the request of more than one third of the Parties to the Treaty Banning Nuclear Weapon Tests in the Atmosphere, in Outer Space and under Water", the depositary Governments, in accordance with Article II of the Treaty, convened a Conference to consider the amendment to the Treaty proposed by Indonesia, Mexico, Peru, Sri Lanka, Venezuela and Yugoslavia. Thereafter, informal consultations among the Parties to the Treaty were held in New York."

24. All subsequent paragraphs should be renumbered accordingly. In paragraph 3 the initial phrase "Following the adoption of resolution 44/106," should be replaced by the word "Thereafter,".

25. It was so decided.

26. The PRESIDENT said that the following minor modifications were also being recommended: The number "I." should be inserted before the heading, "Organization and work of the Meeting", at the beginning of the draft report. In old paragraph 12, the reference to document PTBT/CONF/M/3 should be corrected to a reference to document PTBT/CONF/M/5. In old paragraph 16, the final phrase "28 States Parties made statements." should be amended to read "the following 28 States Parties made statements:", and the States Parties should then be listed. In old paragraph 19, the word "and" in the third line would be deleted and replaced by the phrase ", and information as appropriate,". In the penultimate line of old paragraph 22, part IV of the report would be revised to read, "IV. Other documents of the Meeting".

27. It was so decided.

28. Mr. MARTYNOV (Byelorussian Soviet Socialist Republic) proposed, for the sake of logic, that parts IV and V of the report as listed in old paragraph 22 should be reversed and renumbered accordingly.

29. It was so decided.

30. The draft final report as a whole, as orally amended, was adopted.

31. Ms. GONZALES y REYNERO (Mexico), supported by Mr. WAYARABI (Indonesia), said that it was her understanding that, in accordance with the usual practice, the rules of procedure just adopted were applicable solely to the Amendment Conference and thus exclusively to the decisions to be adopted during that Conference.

CONCLUSION OF THE MEETING

32. The PRESIDENT observed that the good will and diplomatic skills evident during the Meeting, during which complex issues had been resolved by consensus, had made it a success, advancing the cause of peace and auguring well for the forthcoming Amendment Conference.

33. After an exchange of courtesies in which Mr. KALUDJEROVIC (Yugoslavia), speaking on behalf of the non-aligned countries, Mr. WAYARABI (Indonesia), speaking on behalf of the six sponsors of the amendment proposal, Mr. NOETZEL (German Democratic Republic), speaking on behalf of the Group of Eastern European States, and Ms. COURTNEY (Australia), speaking on behalf of the Group of Western European and other States, took part, the PRESIDENT declared the Meeting concluded.

The meeting rose at 5.55 p.m.